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SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LAW.

Prof. Walter White, Rhea County, Says He Enforced It Last Year.

Some time ago the editor of the Chronicle learned that Prof. Walter White of Dayton, Rhea County, who is superintendent of public instruction for Rhea county, had been very successful in enforcing the compulsory attendance school law. We recently addressed a letter to Prof. White asking him to tell what he thought of the possibility of enforcing the law. Following is what Prof. White has to say about it.

Dayton, Tenn., Mar. 1, 1920
Editor S. C. Bishop,
Crossville, Tenn.

My Dear Mr. Bishop:

Your letter relative to the working of the compulsory school law in Rhea county received, and in reply I wish to say that my delay in answering same was caused by sickness.

Before speaking of this school law in detail, I will say for the past few weeks the flu has hit Rhea county pretty hard, and of course, has crippled our schools to some extent. However, I wish to say that I am highly pleased with the results of our efforts to enforce this law in Rhea county during the seven months school term. With but few exceptions this law has been as strictly enforced as the laws against theft, whiskey selling or any other law violation. Of course, Mr. Editor, you are mindful of the fact that any law to be effective must have somebody behind it to enforce it, and since the County Superintendent is at the head of the school system in the county, this law is just about what he makes it.

I take the position that this is one of the best laws that was ever enacted by any state, and it is a crime for any official to refuse to enforce it.

As much as we are pleased with the results in Rhea county this year we expect a much stricter enforcement the coming year, and we believe that the good people of Rhea county will sustain us.

Of course you are mindful of the fact that some people are opposed to any law, whether it be divine or human, but any county superintendent who is afraid of that element is not worthy of his job.

As a result of the enforcement of the law in Rhea county this year, we enrolled 1,500 more students than were enrolled the previous year, and this made necessary the employment of several more teachers.

With highest personal regards, I remain,

Your friend,
WALTER WHITE,

Superintendent Rhea County Schools.

San Francisco Hills.

On the steepest side streets of San Francisco strips of wood or indentations are placed in the sidewalks to help the casual climber. An easterner, sojourning in such a neighborhood for his first winter, may often forget for the instant where he is and say to himself that these will indeed be grateful to the feet when the snow and ice come. Straightway, then, he realizes that the snow and ice never come; so the only slipperiness is that of the rainy days, together with that due to the declivity itself, so sharp that neither horse nor automobile could find a footing on the grass-grown cobblestones. One or two of the sidewalks deserve, indeed, to be considered among the famous stairways of the world, with actual steps cut in cement, as many as 200 or more to a single series.

Tricks of Fishermen.

Sardines are a very shy fish, and the nets used to catch them are of a very fine thread and mesh.

Now fly-fishermen often dull their gutcasts by soaking them in coffee, and so making them less visible. Acting on similar lines, the sardine fishermen have taken to dyeing their nets blue, and thus causing them to be less conspicuous.

Line fishermen, again, are learning all about tides and currents, for the discovery has been made that a line set between the currents will catch many more fish than one set in a direct flow.

Prepared for the Worst.

Mr. Grump (calling upstairs)—What a time you are taking to get dressed for the concert! Look at me; a bit of wadding in each ear and I'm all ready.—Boston Transcript.

YOUNG HERO SAVES LIVES

Dexter Preston, Aged 7 Years, Saves Lives of His Three Sisters.

Cumberland county can boast of a young hero who is worthy of the Carnegie medal as the following will show.

Arthur Preston and family consisting of a wife and four children, the oldest being a boy, Dexter Preston, aged seven years and three younger sisters aged 3 and five years and a babe aged nine months, lost their house and contents by fire a few days ago.

From careful inquiry we learn the situation to be about as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Preston had gone to town on business when the fire broke out in the house, supposedly caught from the chimney.

The little 7-year-old son, Dexter Preston, was there with his three little sisters, Kate aged 5 years; Kattie aged 3 years; Maggie the 9 months babe. When the fire broke out he realized the danger and at once took steps to save them. He carried the two smaller ones out of the house and coaxed the older one to follow him. He then returned to try to save some of the furniture and did get out three chairs and some pillows and climbed on a dresser to get the gun, which was over the door. By that time the flames were so strong and had spread so rapidly that he was out off from getting out at the door. He climbed out of the window but did not save the gun. He then took his three little sisters and started to meet his parents who were returning home.

The wisdom shown by this little lad was most remarkable. More forethought and good judgment was shown than is most times the case with grown people.

When the conditions became known the people of Crossville contributed money to enable the family to get to Taft, Tennessee, where Mr. Preston expected to secure a job with the Bon Air Coal and Iron Company.

John S. Hamel, traveling representative of the National Creditors Publicity Association, was in Crossville last week and learned of the remarkable action of the boy. On returning to Nashville he took the matter up with C. J. Palmer, assistant to the President of the Bon Air Coal and Iron Company, who, on learning of the conditions, at once took steps to insure Preston employment when he reached Taft.

Mr. Palmer assured Mr. Hamel that the lad was not only entitled to a Carnegie Medal but that he was further eligible to a fund of \$5,000 that would be set aside for the education of the boy. The matter will be further looked into and it is very probable that the boy will be awarded the Medal and his education provided for as above indicated.

The house where the Prestons lived was about a mile from town in the direction of the county poor farm and was on the land of A. J. McGuire, for whom Preston had been working for some time.

Increased Use of Coffee.

Whether prohibition has or has not increased the use of coffee, it is at least a fact that the people of the United States are now consuming more coffee than has been their custom and are paying far greater sums for it than ever before. A statement by the National City bank of New York shows that the quantity of coffee brought into the United States in the calendar year 1919 will probably be greater than ever before, notwithstanding the fact that the cost is about three times as much as a pound as formerly. The imports for the ten months ending with October approximate 1,140,000,000 pounds, against 940,000,000 pounds in the same months of last year, and 1,122,000,000 pounds in the corresponding months of 1917, the former high record years in importation.

Gasoline Locomotives Now.

Gasoline locomotives that are safe to use in coal mines have been invented in England, their ignition taking place inside of tight boxes and their exhaust through water.

BIBLES IN STRANGE BINDINGS

Almost No Limit to Variety of Coverings That Have Been Afforded the Scriptures.

"A Bible zoo" sounds most puzzling, but it is nothing more startling than a collection of Bibles bound in the skins of a great variety of animals. We so often find that when a man's life is given to any particular work he is apt to be interested in the curious side of this same work. It is small wonder then that the king's printers of England should have a collection of Bible curiosities.

There are many Bible readers who delight in having their own particular Bible bound in a binding that is out of the ordinary. Hence not only the usual animals have been requisitioned for their skins, but the unusual ones as well—reptiles, fish and beasts of prey. Often these Bibles are used for Christmas gifts.

It is strange to think of a huntsman in the wilds of Asia killing the bear, or a sailor in some northern sea catching the seal, that gives the skin with which a Bible shall be eventually bound to grace the desk of some fastidious woman or an eccentric millionaire. Yet such is often the case, and rather expensive luxuries they are.

One Bible is covered with a long, thick, soft hair, so shaggy that the shape of the book is hidden. This was taken from no less a beast than a grizzly bear. Another is made from the skin of a serpent, which seems not at all inappropriate when we recall that to the Oriental the serpent has always been the symbol of wisdom. A gray, beaded surface, quite resembling glass, is presented by another binding which upon inquiry we find came from a man-eating shark. Delicate, indeed, is the soft, snowy, fluffy cover given by a white lamb. There is a badger Bible and a skunk Bible, the latter looking for all the world like a lady's muff. After a moment's study we recognize in a reddish-brown binding the skin of a squirrel. The Persian sheep, the Himalaya sheep and other foreign varieties of the family have been called upon to furnish Bible coverings. Goat skin tanned in morocco leather. But there are some people who like a binding with the fur left on the skin. It is a fine shaded gray and seems substantial. But most curious of all is a Bible bound in the skin of a giraffe. Of course, no more delightful binding can be imagined than seal.

And even though none of us might care for Bibles bound in any of these curious covers for our Christmas gifts, still it is interesting to learn what a few of the "other half of the world" delight in.

Russia's Small Museums.

The study of natural history is encouraged in some Russian cities by means of miniature museums. They are nothing more than large glass showcases, located in public squares, vacant storerooms and other places where people in large numbers congregate or pass. These are filled with specimens taken from the larger exhibition places. Pedestrians with a few moments to spare find it profitable to loiter in front of the convenient displays to study the stuffed birds and animals under the glass. The contents of the cases are changed weekly, thus providing new and interesting exhibits at frequent intervals. Lectures are given at the small museums at noon hours and on holidays.

He Had One Better.

One of our honest old farmers came home and found a sewing-machine man in the house demonstrating to the women what fine work it would do. The agent asked the farmer to bring in a shingle, and said: "I will show you that the Wonder Worker machine will do heavy work, for I will stitch right across the tip of the shingle where it is at least one-sixteenth of an inch thick."

"Not interested," said the farmer. "Over 'cross here 'bout three miles northeast a young man built a house last summer, and I'll be darned if his wife didn't take her Mechanical Marvel sewin' machine and stitch on every blade course of clapboards, from gable to eaves, clean down to the sills."

As the agent slammed his machine into his light truck and chugged away, the farmer turned to his wife and said: "Well, Rita, I sowed that agent up all right, didn't I? Now let's have supper."—Bangor News.

FALLS VICTIM TO PNEUMONIA

Oliver Schlicher, Aged 24, Passed Away Thursday After Brief Illness

Oliver Schlicher, aged 24 years, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Schlicher, died at the Schlicher home here Thursday at 10 a. m. of pneumonia after an illness of only a few days.

The funeral was held at the Schlicher home Sunday at 10 a. m., conducted by Judge C. E. Snodgrass, of the Christian church, and Rev. J. L. Cupp of the M. E. church. The remains were placed in the city cemetery, attended by a few friends and neighbors. The attendance at the funeral was large despite the day being one of the coldest of the winter, accompanied by a very keen wind. On account of the severity of the weather the women relatives did not attend the grave.

Relatives who were here from a distance were: C. H. Delius, Knoxville; Mrs. Lester Duncan, and Mrs. Roy Duncan, both of Palestine, Ill. The mesdames Duncan left yesterday for their home accompanied by their mother, Mrs. G. A. Schlicher, who will pass a few weeks with her daughter to rest and compose her mind from the heavy loss she has sustained in the death of her only remaining son.

Within the past two years Mr. and Mrs. Schlicher have been called upon to suffer most intensely as previous to this they lost a son, Robert, last July. He was a young man of unusually bright mind and was loved and admired by all who knew him. He passed away in a few weeks from tumor of the brain.

A little over a year ago a married daughter, Mrs. Kate Taylor, died of influenza. She was a woman of very kind and cheerful disposition and was much loved by all who knew her.

This great grief coming so closely after the other two lays upon these splendid people a most crushing burden, one that excites the deepest sympathy of the entire community, which was manifested in every way possible and no thoughtful act of kindness was left undone that could in any way lighten the deep sorrow that oppressed their hearts.

Oliver Schlicher was a splendid Christian gentleman of kindly heart and unbounded generosity. His life had been one of rare kindness and probity; he never missed a chance to render a kindness, and that, coupled with his genial nature, had won for him a host of friends who deeply regret his untimely taking away. He was a member of the Congregational church, a close attendant at Sunday school and lived a very exemplary life as a citizen of the community. After the death of his younger brother last summer he had been the main prop and dependance of his mother, as business called Mr. Schlicher away from home the most of the time. His kindness and gentleness toward his mother was one of the highest characteristics that marked him as being worthy of the admiration of his many friends.

He will be much missed in the community by his many friends.

THE PUBLIC

Owners of the railroads cannot increase the pay or workers unless rates are raised. Shippers cannot stand an increase of rates unless commodity prices are raised. Consumers cannot—do a darned thing—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A. L. Kreider of Sterling, Illinois, was here last week looking after some land owned here by W. H. Ledig, of Dixon, Illinois. Mr. Kreider is interested in the Dixon Casket Company and said his company could use quite a lot of both high and low grade lumber. He was very favorably impressed with the wisdom of investing in our cheap lands and will likely become the owner of some hundreds of acres at no distant date.

FOR SALE—Ford touring car, has been run very little, practically new, 1914 model, Frank Slater, Crossville. 3-3-4t.

LETTER FROM W. C. KEYES

Tells of His Recent Marriage and of His Present Health Condition.

The following letter from W. C. Keyes who recently moved to Charleston, Ark., will be read with interest by many throughout this section, but some of the contents will prove very unpleasant news to his many friends.

Charleston, Ark., Mar. 1, 1920.
Editor Chronicle:

I have been hoping for the past 5 weeks that I would be able to write, but until now I have not felt well enough.

In your issue last week I see that you refer to my marriage and illness. I arrived here January 15, at 1 o'clock p. m., not by chance but by appointment, was met at the depot by Mrs. Kate Lee Bunch, and we drove direct to her residence, where at 7:30 we were married by an M. E. Church, south, minister in the presence of a few invited friends.

Mrs. Keyes is a Tennessee lady, born near Lebanon, educated at Peabody College, Nashville, from which institution she has an A. B. degree. She is 48 years old and was a widow when we were married, is at present superintendent of the high school here at \$150 a month. She has five teachers under her and 291 students, 13 of whom will graduate this spring.

Mrs. Keyes is probably the best known lady teacher in the West, having taught in this state, Oklahoma and Colorado continuously for the past 22 years. Besides being a teacher of ability, she is a writer of some note, having written two editions of song books, and a copyrighted book entitled: Leaves of English Literature; a book of very deep research; also other works of an educational nature.

I was very sick of influenza when I arrived here, could scarcely go, and became completely paralyzed, and for three weeks thought if ever I went back to Tennessee I would have to wear a "wooden overcoat," but owing to the care of a good doctor and the nursing of a good wife I am now able to get about a little. I can go down hill fine, if I can get the brakes to work to keep from going too fast.

I received the Chronicle Saturday; was sorry to see that my old friend J. M. Procter was dead. He was one man in life that had been "weight in the balance and never found wanting." Cumberland county should erect a monument to his memory for the work he did in having the bonds voted for the Tennessee Central Railroad. In fact it was he alone who scored the victory. The writer of this article is probably the only living man today who knows just how the "cards were played."

I was also sorry to notice the death of Miss Hattie Renfro, of Chattanooga.

This has been a remarkably mild winter here. We are only 800 feet above sea level and only one little snow has fallen—the second Sunday in February, and all was gone the next day.

Well, I am drawing this out too long. If any of my friends wish to write me I will be glad to hear from them. I will be here until May 15, then we leave for the National Forest Reserve in New Mexico, 1100 miles away where we have a 640 acre homestead.

Wishing my many friends success and prosperity and my few enemies no more remorse than is due them, I am,

Yours truly,
W. C. KEYES

THE LEAGUE

As time goes on it becomes more and more certain that the League of Nations will not be ratified by the senate. The democrats will not permit ratification with the Lodge reservations and the republicans will not permit it without the Lodge reservations or some wording of equivalent nature.

It now seems sure that the League will go into the campaign and when the people get a chance to vote on it it will be—"good night."

NO MORE SEEDS

If you do not get your accustomed packages of seeds from your congressman this year do not blame him. The custom of appropriating \$240,000 each year to furnish seeds to the congressmen to send to their people was cut out of the agricultural bill the other day, and there will be no free seeds this year. The move was made in the interest of economy and most persons will agree that it was a wise one.